St. Peter's Lutheran, Mishicot

Education Unit Dedication Sunday

MISHICOT — The newly constructed education unit addition to St. Peter's Lutheran Church will be dedicated at 9:30 a.m. Sunday, Oct. 22.

St. Peter's congregation was organized in 1861. The first church, a small frame building, was built in 1875, just east of the present church. Since 1902 Rockwood Lutheran Church has been united with St. Peter's to form one parish, the pastor residing at Mishicot.

The present stone church was dedicated in 1927, when hte membership was less than 200 communicants. Since the membership has more than doubled since that time, the need for more space, especially for Christian education, had become pressing.

Ground Broken

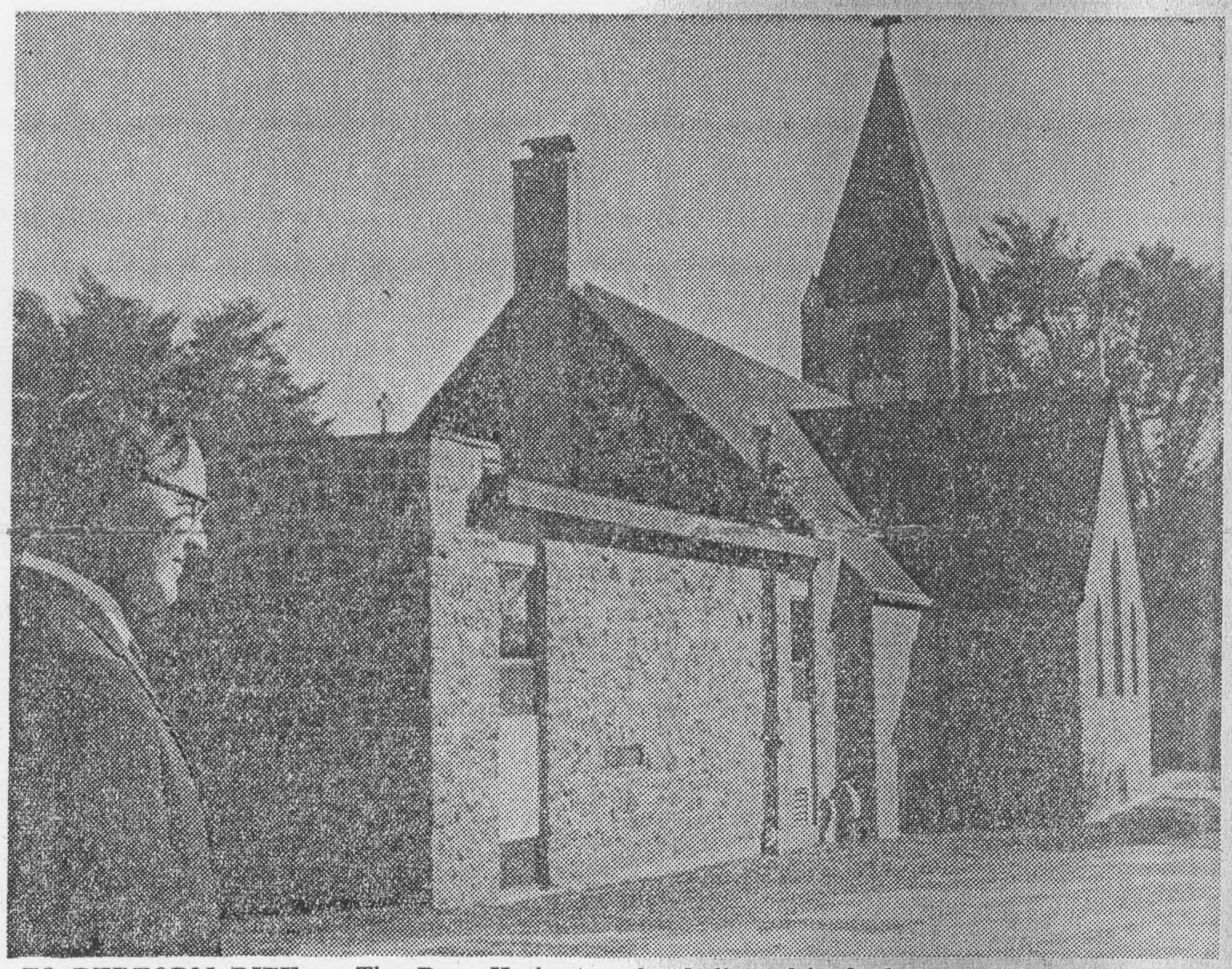
Last March bids totaling $146,442 were accepted, including $3,850 for granite exterior to match the existing church. On Easter, April 2, ground was broken, and construction began the next day. The cornerstone was laid with a special service on May 28. The project will cost about $160,000 with architectural fees.

The new addition will be dedicated in the morning service, the pastor, the Rev. Herbert Kesting, performing the rite. Prof. William Zell of Northwestern College, Watertown, will serve as liturgist. His father, the late Rev. Edward Zell, Sr., was pastor when the present church was dedicated.

Miss Alice Zell, a daughter of the former pastor, is choir directress, and will also serve as organist in the afternoon service. Mrs. William Hauck will be at the organ in the morning. The Sunday School and choir will sing in both services.

In the afternoon of Dedication Day, there will be a service of praise and thanksgiving at 2:30 o'clock. The Rev. William Fischer of Milwaukee, Wisconsin Synod's secretary of part-time education, will be guest speaker. Special invitations have gone out to the other 24 congregations of the Manitowoc Conference of the Wisconsin Synod to attend, but anyone is welcome to attend the services, the pastor stated. Supper will be served to all members and guests beginning at 4 o'clock. A free-will offering will be taken.

An open house will be held for the people of the community and area who would like to see the building from 2 to 5 p.m. Sunday Nov. 5.



TO PERFORM RITE — The Rev. Herbert Kesting, pastor of St. Peter Lutheran Church, Mishicot, has an admiring glance, as he checks the new education unit which will be dedicated in daylong services Sunday. He will perform the dedication rite during the morning service. (Photo by staff photographer)

The addition, about 60 x 80 feet, has two floors. The lower floor, connecting with the basement of the church, will provide space for the heating plants, three storage rooms, toilets, kitchen, and a multi-purpose room measuring about 40 x 60 feet.

The upper floor, which will be on the same level as the rear of the church nave, will provide three full-sized classrooms which could be used for a Christian Day School in the future. They will now be used for Sunday School, confirmation classes, Bible school, and other purposes.

Preserve Fixtures

There will also be a narthex on the second level with a lounge area. All floors on both levels are carpeted where practicable. Two of the stained glass windows and two of the old church light fixtures are incorporated into this area. This floor also houses a cry room or nursery, two small washrooms, and an office. The new narthex is reached from the parking area in the rear of the church. Additional land was purchased last May to enlarge the parking area, and is ready for use.

Ray Wiebensohn is chairman of the building committee. Serving with him are Oscar Barthels, Donald Pelischek, Albert Sehloff, and William Thielbar.

Frederick Eisenmann heads the finance committee which includes William Hauck and Chester Schultz.

Marvin Fleck is president of the congregation. Other members of the Church Council are Terence Hanson, Robert Blattler, Earl Flessert, Delmar Dvorak, and Edward Eslinger. The Board of Education consists of Barthels, Hauck, Roy Jindra, and Dvorak.

Women in charge of planning the supper for dedication are Mrs. Carl Schram, Mrs. Arthur Meissner, Mrs. Roy Jindra, Mrs. Edna Jonas, Mrs. Robert Wiegert, and Mrs. Eugene Jergenson. Committee of the Ladies' Bible Hour in charge of buying the things needed for the kitchen and diningroom includes Mrs. Paul Rahmlow, Mrs. Hilda Harpt, and Mrs. Emil Schleis, Jr.

Wall-Rich Construction Co. of Manitowoc was the general contractor. Nelesen Plumbing, Anderson Electric, also of Manitowoc, and Towne, Inc. of Appleton for heating, were the other contractors. Raeuber, Stark & Associates, Manitowoc, has been the architectural firm in charge.